

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: John M. Gascoyne et al. : Art Unit:
Application No.: To Be Assigned : Examiner:
Filed: Herewith :
FOR: PROCESS FOR PREPARING A SOLID :
POLYMER ELECTROLYTE MEMBRANE :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 23, with the following:

2) Perfluorinated or partially fluorinated polymers containing aromatic rings such as those described in WO 95/08581 and WO 97/25369 (Ballard Power Systems) which have been functionalised with SO_3H , PO_2H_2 , PO_3H_2 , $\text{CH}_2\text{PO}_3\text{H}_2$, COOH , OSO_3H , OPO_2H_2 , OPO_3H_2 . Also included are radiation or chemically grafted perfluorinated polymers, in which a perfluorinated carbon chain, for example, PTFE, fluorinated ethylene-propylene (FEP), tetrafluoroethylene-ethylene (ETFE) copolymers, tetrafluoroethylene-perfluoroalkoxy (PFA) copolymers, poly (vinyl fluoride) (PVF) and poly (vinylidene fluoride) (PVDF) is activated by radiation or chemical initiation in the presence of a monomer, such as styrene, which can be functionalised to contain an ion exchange group.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 8, with the following: